

**STEVEN J. ADAMOWSKI**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Testimony of: Dr. Steven J. Adamowski

In support of: S.B. No. 5486

**AN ACT CONCERNING RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS FOR REGISTERED SEXUAL OFFENDERS.**

**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

**OPENING CHOICE:** Honorable Chairmen and Members of the Committee

**TEXT OF TESTIMONY / STATEMENT OF POSITION:**

My name is Steven J. Adamowski, Superintendent of Hartford Public Schools. **I am writing today in support of BILL NUMBER 5486 – AN ACT CONCERNING RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS FOR REGISTERED SEXUAL OFFENDERS.**

There are 5,098 registered sex offenders in our state of Connecticut. Most of them live in the large urban areas such as Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport. In the City of Hartford, police data indicates that there are 568 registered sex offenders and that 96% of them live within 2000 feet of a school property. Permitting 96% of registered sex offenders to reside within 2000 feet of places where children congregate clearly puts our children in harms way. This is unacceptable and we cannot wait for a single child to be physically or psychologically harmed before we act as a state. Since children cannot defend themselves, it is the moral and legal responsibility of the state to defend and protect them from preventable harm. Twenty-one other states have enacted laws that limit the distance that sex offenders can live away from a school or day care center. Connecticut should be the twenty-second state to do so immediately by requiring sex offenders to live at least 2000 feet away from a public or private elementary or secondary school or day care center.

**ENDING:**

I thank you for accepting my testimony and I ask that you support **BILL NUMBER H.B. 5486 AN ACT CONCERNING RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS FOR REGISTERED SEXUAL OFFENDERS.**